

**United Nations Statistics Division: Demographic Yearbook**  
**Questionnaire on Metadata for Population and Housing Census**

Reporting country: [Hong Kong, China](#)

Population census date: [30 June 2021](#)

Housing census date:

**A. General population census information**

**1. Census - taking methodological approaches**

<p>(1) Traditional census - full field enumeration</p> <p>If yes, please circle the mode of data collection among options (a) to (f) listed below:</p> <p>(a) paper questionnaire only</p> <p>(b) paper questionnaire and tablet computers</p> <p>(c) tablet computers only</p> <p>(d) tablet computers and internet</p> <p>(e) internet and paper questionnaires</p> <p><b>(f)</b> other (please describe)</p> <p><a href="#">Paper questionnaire, tablet computers, internet and telephone interview</a></p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>(2) Combined census</p> <p>If yes, please circle the method of census taking among the options (a) to (c) listed below:</p> <p>(a) register(s)* and ad-hoc surveys</p> <p>(b) register(s)* and existing surveys</p> <p>(c) other (please describe)</p> <p>*Please list the register or registers that are used.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>(3) Fully register based census</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>

(4) Rolling census	<input type="checkbox"/>
(5) Other, please specify	

## 2. Type of population count and coverage

<b>Type of population count</b>	
(a) Present / de facto population	<input type="checkbox"/>
(b) Usual resident population	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(c) Other, please specify	<input type="checkbox"/>

## 3. Please specify whether the following population groups were enumerated in the census:

Population group	Included	Excluded	Not applicable
(a) Nomads and persons living in areas to which access is difficult	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(b) Civilian residents temporarily absent from the country	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(c) Civilian foreigners who do not cross a border daily and are in the country temporarily	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(d) Refugees, asylum seekers and internally displaced persons	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(e) Military, naval and diplomatic personnel and their families located outside the country	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(f) Foreign military, naval and diplomatic personnel and their families located in the country	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(g) Civilian foreigners who cross a border daily to work in the country	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(h) Civilian residents who cross a border daily to work in another country	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(i) Merchant seafarers and fishers resident in the country but at sea at the time of the census	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(j) Homeless or roofless persons, vagrants and persons with no concept of usual residence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(k) Persons living in buildings with restricted access	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(l) Stateless persons	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**4. In case the enumeration was performed according to the ‘usual resident population’ concept, please complete the following additional table.**

For each of the population groups listed in the following table, please indicate whether they were included, excluded, or not applicable in the usual resident population count.

<b>Population group</b>	<b>Included</b>	<b>Excluded</b>	<b>Not applicable</b>
(a) Persons found at the moment of enumeration that cannot identify their place of usual residence, such as those who move often;	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(b) National military, naval and diplomatic personnel and their families, located outside the country;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(c) Foreign persons working for international organizations (not including foreign diplomats or military forces), provided that they meet the criteria for usual residence in the country;	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(d) Merchant seafarers and fishers usually resident in the country but at sea at the time of the census (including those who have no place of residence other than their quarters aboard ship);	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(e) Persons who may be illegal, irregular or undocumented migrants, as well as asylum seekers and persons who have applied for or been granted refugee status or similar types of international protections, provided that they meet the criteria for usual residence in the country;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(f) Persons who cross a frontier daily or weekly to work or study in another country, provided that they meet the criteria for usual residence in the country;	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(g) Children born in the 12 months before the census reference time and whose	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Depends only on whether

families are usually resident in the country at the census reference time;			these children meet the criteria for usual residence
<b>(h)</b> Persons of minor age studying abroad for one year or more to attain the primary or secondary level of education, regardless of the frequency of return to the family home located within the country. If the person is also working abroad, the same rules for cross-border workers apply;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Depends only on whether these persons meet the criteria for usual residence
<b>(i)</b> Persons who regularly live in more than one country during a year, if they are present in the country at the moment of the enumeration.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Depends only on whether these persons meet the criteria for usual residence
<b>(j)</b> Foreign military, naval and diplomatic personnel and their families, located in the country, regardless of their place of usual residence;	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>(k)</b> Persons of minor age attending the primary or secondary level of education whose family home is located abroad, regardless of the duration of their stay. However, if these persons are also working in the country, then the identification of the place of usual residence follows the same rules as for cross-border workers;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Depends only on whether these persons meet the criteria for usual residence
<b>(l)</b> Third-level students who are absent from the country for one year or more;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>(m)</b> Persons who regularly live in more than one country during a year, if they are not present in the country at the moment of the enumeration.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## 5. Estimated census coverage

Estimated coverage:	Both sexes	Male	Female
(a) Census under-enumeration / omissions (specify unit: <input type="text"/> )	"Negligible"	"Negligible"	"Negligible"
(b) Census over-enumeration / erroneous inclusions and duplications (specify unit: <input type="text"/> )	"Negligible"	"Negligible"	"Negligible"
(c) Net coverage error (specify unit: <input type="text"/> )	"Negligible"	"Negligible"	"Negligible"
(d) Net coverage error rate	"Negligible"	"Negligible"	"Negligible"

Base denominator for computing net coverage error rate is:	
(a) Enumerated population	<input type="checkbox"/>
(b) Estimated "complete" population	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(c) Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>

Method(s) used in estimating coverage error:	
(a) Post Enumeration Survey (PES)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Date conducted: <input type="text"/>	3 Sep – 31 Oct 2021
Size of sample (specify unit: <input type="text"/> ):	Quarters
For total area: <input type="text"/>	1800
For urban areas: <input type="text"/>	
For rural areas: <input type="text"/>	
Population groups excluded: <input type="text"/>	
(b) Demographic analysis, please specify: > Household size > Residence status of persons <input type="text"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(c) Other methods, please specify: <input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## 6. Definition of urban/rural

The definition of urban areas for this census is:

■ Not Applicable ■

The definition of rural areas for this census is:

■ Not Applicable ■

## 7. Definition of cities

The definition of a city proper for this census is:

■ Not Applicable ■

The definition of urban agglomeration for this census is:

■ Not Applicable ■

## 8. Definition of locality

The definition of a locality for this census is:

There are 18 districts in Hong Kong as declared under the District Councils Ordinance (Cap. 547): 4 on Hong Kong Island, 5 in Kowloon and 9 in the New Territories. A District Council is established in each district. The boundary of Constituency Area for each District Council is recommended by the Electoral Affairs Commission to the Chief Executive. The set of Constituency Area boundaries adopted in the 2021 Population Census is based on those declared in the Declaration of Constituencies (District Councils) Order 2018 (L.N. 263 of 2018) made by the Chief Executive in Council under section 6 of the District Councils Ordinance (Cap. 547) for the District Council Election held on 24 November 2019.

## 9. Definition of literacy

The definition of "literate" and "illiterate" for this census is:

There is no official definition regarding "literacy" for this census. For the statistics concerned provided in the questionnaire according to the results of this census, a person is defined as "literate" if he/she is considered as being able to both read and write a short, simple statement in a language in everyday life. On the contrary, a person is defined as "illiterate" if he/she is considered as being unable to read or write a short, simple statement in a language in everyday life.

## 10. Educational attainment

Do you follow the International Standard Classification for Education (ISCED) for tabulating the population by educational attainment?

Yes

If yes, which revision? [ISCED-2011](#)

If any other classification is used, are you able to provide data according to ISCED? Please specify revision number.

## ISCED-1997 & ISCED-2011

If no, please point out the major deviations from ISCED. Please specify revision number.

### B. Economic characteristics

#### 11. Activity status / labour force status

What is the lower age limit for the collection of information on activity status in this census?

15

Is there a maximum age limit for collection of information on activity status for this census?

No

What reference period do you use to establish the activity status (labour force status) of a person?

24 June 2021 to 30 June 2021

**12. Please specify whether the groups of persons listed in the following table are included or excluded in the 'in employment' category in your census, by marking the appropriate box below.**

	Included	Excluded	Not applicable
(a) Persons with a job for pay or profit who, during the reference period, were on training or skills enhancement activities required by their job or for another job in the same economic unit;	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(b) Apprentices, interns or trainees who work for pay in cash or in kind;	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(c) Persons who work for pay or profit through employment promotion programs;	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(d) Persons who work in their own economic units to produce goods intended <i>mainly</i> for sale or barter, even if part of the output is consumed by the household or family;	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(e) Persons with seasonal jobs during the off season, if they continue to perform some	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

tasks and duties of the job, excluding, however, fulfilment of legal or administrative obligations (for example pay taxes);			
(f) Regular members of the armed forces and persons on military or alternative civilian service who perform this work for pay in cash or in kind;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(g) Apprentices, interns and trainees who work <i>without</i> pay in cash or in kind (that is, unpaid trainee work);	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(h) Participants in skills training or retraining schemes within employment promotion programs, when <i>not</i> engaged in the production process of an economic unit;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(i) Persons who are required to perform work as a condition of continued receipt of a government social benefit such as unemployment insurance;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(j) Persons with seasonal jobs during the off season, if they <i>cease</i> to perform the tasks and duties of the job;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(k) Persons who retain a right to return to the same economic unit but who were absent (for reasons such as parental leave, educational leave, care for others, other personal reasons, temporary lay-off, suspension of work), when the total duration of the absence exceeds the specified threshold or if the test of receipt of remuneration is not fulfilled;	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(l) Persons on indefinite lay-off who do not have an assurance of return to employment with the same economic unit;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(m) Persons who work to produce goods intended <i>mainly</i> or <i>exclusively</i> for consumption or use by the household or family, even if a surplus or part of the output is sold or bartered (that is, own-use production of goods);	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(n) Household members who provide <i>unpaid</i> services for consumption or use by their household (that is, own-use provision of services);	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



(o) Persons who work voluntarily and <i>without</i> pay to produce goods or services through or for other economic units, including market, non-market units and households (that is, volunteer work).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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### 13. Status in Employment

Based on the International Standard Classification of Status in Employment (ICSE-93), the status in employment may be classified as follows:

- (a) Employees;
- (b) Self-employed:
  - i. Employers;
  - ii. Own-account workers;
  - iii. Members of producers' cooperatives;
  - iv. Contributing family workers;
- (c) Persons not classifiable by status.

Do you follow the above structure, for the classification of the Status in Employment in your country?

Yes, except without the class of "Members of producers' cooperatives"

If any other classification is used, are you able to provide data according to the above structure?

If no, please point out the major deviations from ICSE-93.

### 14. Occupation

Do you follow the International Standard Classification for Occupations (ISCO) for tabulating the employed population by occupation?

Yes

If yes, which revision? ISCO-08

If any other or national classification is used, are you able to provide data according to ISCO? Please specify revision number.

If no, point out the major deviations from ISCO. Please specify revision number.

## **15. Industry**

Do you follow the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC) for tabulating the employed population by industry?

No

If yes, which revision?

If any other classification is used, are you able to provide data according to ISIC?  
Please specify revision number.

Hong Kong Standard Industrial Classification (HSIC) version 2.0, which is based on ISIC Rev. 4 with local adaptations. The HSIC at 3-digit level (Industry Group) are broadly in line with those of the ISIC.

If no, please point out the major deviations from ISIC. Please specify revision number.

## C. Household characteristics

### 16. Definitions

General definition of a household for this census is:

A domestic household consists of a group of persons who live together and make common provision for essentials for living. These persons need not be related. If a person makes provision for essentials for living without sharing with other persons, he/ she is also regarded as a household. In this case the household is a one-person household. (Note: A domestic household must have at least one member who is a Usual Resident. Households comprising Mobile Residents only are not classified as domestic households.)

General definition of a family nucleus for this census is:

Household composition is derived from the information on relationship to the head of household of each person and the identification of spouse and parent-child relationships among members of the household.

Nuclear family households comprise the following three categories:

(1) Composed of couple: A household comprising a married couple without any other related persons. It may or may not include other unrelated persons (e.g. domestic helpers).

(2) Composed of couple and unmarried children: A household comprising a couple and their unmarried child(ren) without any other related persons. It may or may not include other unrelated persons (e.g. domestic helpers).

(3) Composed of lone parent and unmarried children: A household comprising a father or mother and his/ her unmarried child(ren) without any other related persons. It may or may not include other unrelated persons e.g. domestic helpers).

Details of the type of household composition are available at [https://www.census2021.gov.hk/en/terms\\_and\\_definitions.html](https://www.census2021.gov.hk/en/terms_and_definitions.html)

### 17. Head of household / reference person of household

Which one among the following options was used to determine the relationships between household members?

Please select one. a) Head of household

- a) Head of household
- b) Reference person
- c) Other; please describe

Regarding your answer to the previous question, please provide the definition of head of household or reference person that was used in the Census.

In a domestic household, the household head is the person recognised to be responsible for making major decisions for the household. If the household is of collective type, or consists of several unrelated persons living together, the head should be the person acknowledged as such by other members of the household.

## D. Housing census characteristics

### 18. Housing information

The general definition applied in this census for housing unit is:

A unit of quarters is defined as an enclosed space either in a domestic, industrial, commercial or other types of buildings for the purpose of living, manufacturing or business undertaking. There are two conditions being fulfilled if the enclosed space is considered to be quarters: (a) being internally connected, and (b) having direct access to a street, a corridor or landing without going via another unit.

The general definition applied in this census for conventional dwelling is:

■ Not Applicable ■

Are vacant units included in the enumerated conventional dwellings?

■ Not Applicable ■

The general definition applied in this census for room is:

A room is a space in the quarters enclosed by walls reaching from the floor to the ceiling or roof covering, or at least to a height of 2 metres, of a size large enough to hold a bed for an adult, that is at least 4 square metres.

### 19. Definition of cities

(as referred to in the Housing Census Questionnaire: City Data)

General definition of a city in the reporting country for this census is:

■ Not Applicable ■

City 1 (Capital City) – Territory refers to:

■

City 2 – Territory refers to:

■

City 3 – Territory refers to:

■

City 4 – Territory refers to:

■

## **E. Bibliography of Population and Housing Statistics**

Please list publications that contain results of your latest population census and your latest housing census:

(1) [2021 Population Census – Key Statistics](#)

[Census & Statistics Department, Hong Kong SAR, China , 2022](#)

(2) [2021 Population Census - Summary Results](#)

[Census & Statistics Department, Hong Kong SAR, China , 2022](#)